

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A method for managing devices using a virtual device domain, the
2 method comprising:

3 establishing a virtual device for each physical device of one or more
4 devices associated with a user; and
5 synchronizing the virtual device with one or more other virtual devices.

1 2. The method claim 1, further comprising synchronizing the virtual
2 device with external databases.

1 3. The method of claim 1, wherein establishing a virtual device for
2 each physical device comprises creating the virtual device in a virtual device
3 domain and updating settings in the virtual device..

1 4. The method of claim 3, wherein the settings comprise configuration
2 and personal settings, synchronizing the virtual device with one or more other
3 virtual devices, is based on a domain configuration.

1 5. The method of claim 1, wherein synchronizing the virtual device
2 with one or more other virtual devices is based on a domain configuration.

1 6. A computer program product that manages devices using a virtual
2 device domain, the computer program product comprising:

3 computer code to:

4 establish a virtual device within a virtual device domain for each
5 physical device associated with a user; and

6 synchronize the virtual device with one or more virtual devices in
7 the virtual device domain.

1 7. The computer program product of claim 6, further comprising a
2 user interface to facilitate administration of the virtual devices.

1 8. The computer program product of claim 6, wherein the computer
2 code includes code to administer configuration and personal settings, and the
3 virtual device is synchronized with one or more other virtual devices, based on a
4 domain configuration.

1 9. A system for managing devices using a virtual domain, the system
2 comprising:
3 a number of physical devices associated with a user; and
4 a virtual device domain including virtual devices for each of the number of
5 physical devices, wherein the virtual devices include device capability
6 information for corresponding physical devices, and wherein the number of
7 physical devices are synchronized by the corresponding virtual devices.

1 10. The system of claim 9, wherein synchronization of the virtual
2 devices is based on a domain configuration.

1 11. The system of claim 9, wherein the virtual device is located in the
2 network.

1 12. The system of claim 9, wherein the virtual device domain is in a
2 personal computer.

1 13. The system of claim 9, wherein the virtual devices can be
2 administered by the user over a network.

1 14. The system of claim 13, wherein the network is the Internet.

1 15. The system of claim 9, wherein the physical devices communicate
2 data to the virtual devices to provide a backup of the data.

1 16. The system of claim 9, wherein the Virtual Device Domain resides
2 in a server associated with a communication provider.

1 17. The system of claim 9, wherein the Virtual Device Domain
2 comprises domain configuration including transcoding rules.

1 18. The system of claim 9, wherein the synchronization follows a
2 SyncML specification.

1 19. The system of claim 9, wherein the virtual devices have
2 relationships between each other defined by a configuration and used in
3 administering and managing the Virtual Device Domain, wherein the
4 administering and managing is done using an application that provides a visual
5 presentation of the virtual devices and the relationships.

1 20. A business method for providing a virtual device domain including
2 virtual devices corresponding to physical devices associated with a user, the
3 business method comprising:

4 associating a communication service with a plurality of physical devices;
5 and

6 managing the plurality of physical devices using virtual devices in a virtual
7 device domain, wherein managing the plurality of physical devices includes
8 synchronizing the virtual devices.

1 21. The business method of claim 20, wherein managing the plurality
2 of physical devices comprises tracking services and configurations of the virtual
3 devices in the virtual device domain for billing purposes.

1 22. The business method of claim 20, further comprising synchronizing
2 the virtual devices according to a payment plan configuration.